

Abstract of the Disclosure

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5 A birefringent interference polarizer which may be
fabricated from readily available materials using
established coextrusion techniques is provided. The
10 polarizer has a level of light absorption near zero and
can be fabricated to polarize and reflect light of
specific wavelengths while transmitting light of other
wavelengths. The polarizer includes multiple alternating
oriented layers of at least first and second polymeric
15 materials having respective nonzero stress optical
coefficients which are sufficiently different to produce a
refractive index mismatch between the first and second
polymeric materials in a first plane which is different
from the refractive index mismatch between the first and
second polymeric materials in a second plane normal to the
first plane. The refractive index mismatch in the first
plane is preferably at least 0.03.